

WHAT'S *New*

in the Metropolitan Police Department



*A weekly update for residents, visitors,
and workers in the District of Columbia*

Friday, September 16, 2005

MPDC DEPLOYS THREE NEW PHOTO ENFORCEMENT CAMERAS

On Thursday, September 15, 2005, the Metropolitan Police Department deployed three new traffic safety cameras at high-risk locations for aggressive driving in the District, completing a recently announced expansion plan to enhance safety on DC roadways. Two new stationary photo radar cameras are in the 600 block of New York Avenue, NE (westbound), and the 3400 block of Benning Road, NE (westbound). One additional red-light intersection safety camera — on Florida Avenue, NE, at New York Avenue (northwest bound) — has also been installed.

During the first 30 days of activation, only warning notices will be issued to drivers who are caught speeding aggressively or running red lights at the three new locations. The warning notices are part of an effort to educate motorists about the dangers of speeding and red light running. Beginning October 15, 2005, aggressive speeders and red-light runners caught by photo enforcement will receive Notices of Infraction in the mail.

While photo-enforced violations do not carry points in the District, the fines for speeding range up to \$200 per violation and the penalty for running a red light is a \$75 fine. With the new deployments, the MPD now has 10 stationary photo radar speeding reduction cameras, along with a fleet of 12 mobile photo radar vehicles (including two work zone vans).

- ① There are now 49 red-light intersection safety cameras in the District. Read the complete news release at:
<http://app.mpd.cdc.gov/newsroom/newsroom.asp?sid=157000>

- ① Get detailed information about photo enforcement in the District of Columbia at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/trafficsafety>

DC CITED AS NATIONAL LEADER IN REDUCTION OF ALCOHOL-RELATED DEATHS

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is proud to announce that the District leads the nation in reducing the number of alcohol-related traffic deaths, according to recently released data from the US Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). NHTSA's 2004 State Drunk Driving Statistics shows that from 2003 to 2004, DC recorded a 56% drop in alcohol-related crashes, followed by Kansas with a 29% decrease, and Rhode Island with a 26% decline. The District declined in the number of traffic crashes involving at least a driver or motorcycle rider with an illegal blood alcohol concentrations (BAC) of 0.08 or higher.

Since 2001, DDOT and MPD officials have worked together to encourage safe driving with several advertising campaigns, including "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" and "Click It or Ticket." The agencies have also partnered to sponsor drunk driving safety checkpoints and enforce serious speeding violations. DC Police Chief Charles H. Ramsey commented that, "MPD recently undertook several large-scale initiatives to discourage drunk driving-including Checkpoint Strikeforce, the Speed Blitz program and the "Click it or Ticket" initiative.

In tandem with these efforts, DDOT has promoted a paid-media campaign to inform the public about the hazards of drunk driving and worked with community groups to distribute literature.

- ① Read the complete news release on the Districts Department of Transportation website at:
http://www.ddot.dc.gov/ddot/cwp/view,a,1252,q,632341,ddotNav_GID,1610.asp

- ① Know when to say when. Read about drunk driving prevention at
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/dui>

- ① For more information on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, go to:
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

POLICE RECRUITING OFFICER CANDIDATES IN DETROIT THIS WEEK

Representatives of the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) are in Detroit this week recruiting candidates for police officer positions in the nation's capital.

DC Metropolitan Police are conducting a law enforcement Recruitment Fair on September 16-17, at Detroit's Work Place, 455 West Fort Street. Interested applicants can talk with police recruiters about career opportunities in the MPD, complete application forms and take the written police test on-site. Testing begins at 9 am on both days, with the last test at 6 pm on September 16, and 3 pm on September 17.

The starting salary for entry-level Metropolitan Police officers is \$44,611, with officers earning \$48,809 after 18 months. Among other minimum requirements, officer candidates in the MPD must be at least 21 years of age and have at least 60 semester hours of college credit at the time of application.

In addition to recruiting entry-level candidates, the MPD will be seeking applicants for its lateral hire program. Under this program, experienced officers from other law enforcement agencies are eligible to join the MPD at salary levels that reflect their previous police experience.

The DC Metropolitan Police Department is the primary law enforcement agency in the nation's capital, providing police service in DC neighborhoods and assisting federal agencies in securing and protecting Washington, DC. The MPD recently expanded to 3,800 officers, who serve a city of approximately 575,000 residents. DC Police are recruiting new officer candidates in order to maintain the Department's authorized strength.

WHO'S WATCHING YOUR CAR?

The Metropolitan Police Department invites you to register your car with Watch Your Car, a national vehicle theft prevention program funded by the United States Department of Justice. It is a voluntary vehicle registration program designed to deter auto theft and assist in the apprehension of auto thieves. Participating vehicle owners sign an agreement stating their vehicle is not normally used between the hours of 1 am and 5 am. Vehicle owners receive decals that they apply to their windshields. If a police officer observes the vehicle being driven anywhere in the United States during these hours, they may stop the vehicle and verify the vehicle owner — or a person designated by the owner — is operating it, and that the vehicle is not stolen.

NEWS & NOTES

Civilian Career Opportunities. The MPDC continues to seek qualified applicants for two civilian positions within the agency, including a new posting for a writer in the Office of Organizational Development. For information, including requirements, salaries, and application procedures and guidelines, go to <http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1230,q,538142.asp>.

Drug Free Zones in Fifth, Seventh Districts. Metropolitan Police will be enforcing DC's anti-loitering law, Thursday through Tuesday, in designated areas of PSAs 501 and 705. Get more information at <http://mpdc.dc.gov>.

Suspect Sought. The MPDC is seeking the public's help in locating an individual suspected of robbing several stores in the DC area. Get details on this case at <http://www.mpdc.dc.gov/robbery>.

① Additional information about career opportunities in the Metropolitan Police Department can be found on the MPD website at:

www.mpdc.dc.gov/join

① For more information about the Detroit Recruitment Fair, call the MPD Office or Recruiting at 1-800-994-MPDC.

① Get more information and register your car online at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/wyc>

① Help prevent auto theft by following these safety tips from the MPDC at:

<http://www.mpdc.dc.gov/autotheft>

DATA BOX

Homicides as of 9/16/05

- ◆ 2005: 135
- ◆ 2004: 139
- ◆ % Change: -2.9%
- ◆ Closure Rate: 51.9% (70 closures)

Adult Arrests week end. 9/10/05

- ◆ Total: 1,006
- ◆ Drugs: 194
- ◆ Weapons: 22
- ◆ Motor Vehicle Theft: 11
- ◆ Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 30

Juvenile Activity week end. 9/10/05

- ◆ Arrests: 58
- ◆ Curfew Violations: 101
- ◆ Truants: 49

Firearm Recoveries as of 9/14/05

- ◆ September: 58
- ◆ 2005 Total: 1,671

Traffic Fatalities as of 9/16/05

- ◆ 2005: 33
- ◆ 2004: 38
- ◆ % Change: -13.2%

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov. Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with **Crimereports.com**.

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